



Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Initial Claims Statistics

March

Rhode Island workers filed a total of 5,543 initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits in March 2005, down (-7.4%) from the 5,983 initial claims filed in March 2004.

Employees with an attachment to the Manufacturing (947) sector filed the greatest number of claims this month. The Construction sector with a total of 747 initial claims filed against it accounted for over thirteen percent of the initial claims this month. In comparison, Construction accounted for just over four percent of the state's total employment.* Employees of the Administrative & Waste Services (413) and Accommodation & Food Services (392) sectors also filed significant numbers of claims.

At the major occupational level, workers classified in Production (763) and Office & Administrative Support (719) occupations filed the most claims accounting for over one-quarter of the March claims. Significant numbers of claims were also filed by workers in the Transportation & Material Moving (487) occupations followed closely by those classified in the Construction & Extraction occupations (486).

Initial Claims by Industry Sector

	Claims	Percent
Industry	5,543	100%
Agriculture/Forestry	9	0.2%
Mining	8	0.1%
Utilities	4	0.1%
Construction	747	13.5%
Manufacturing	947	17.1%
Wholesale Trade	163	2.9%
Retail Trade	390	7.0%
Transportation & Warehousing	201	3.6%
Information	55	1.0%
Finance & Insurance	163	2.9%
Real Estate	80	1.4%
Professional & Tech. Services	170	3.1%
Management of Companies	124	2.2%
Administrative & Waste Services	413	7.5%
Educational Services	28	0.5%
Health Care & Social Assistance	353	6.4%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	75	1.4%
Accommodation & Food Services	392	7.1%
Other Services	126	2.3%
Public Administration	95	1.7%
Information Not Available	1,001	18.1%

Initial Claims by Occupation

	Claims	Percent
Major Occupational Group	5,543	100%
Management	415	7.5%
Business & Financial Operations	108	1.9%
Computer & Mathematical	54	1.0%
Architecture & Engineering	87	1.6%
Life, Physical & Social Science	21	0.4%
Community & Social Services	49	0.9%
Legal	18	0.3%
Education, Training & Library	70	1.3%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports & Media	75	1.4%
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	112	2.0%
Healthcare Support	125	2.3%
Protective Service	103	1.9%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	311	0.5%
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	130	2.3%
Personal Care & Service	46	0.8%
Sales & Related	335	6.0%
Office & Administrative Support	719	13.0%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	8	0.1%
Construction & Extraction	486	8.8%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	165	3.0%
Production	763	13.8%
Transportation & Material Moving	487	8.8%
Military Specific	15	0.3%
Information Not Available	842	20.2%

Fifty-seven percent of this month's claims were filed by men and forty-three percent were filed by women. Construction Laborer was the most often cited occupation for these newly unemployed men while Customer Service Representative was the most often cited occupation for the newly unemployed women.

Forty-five percent of the claimants filing initial claims this month reported a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment. More than one-quarter reported having education beyond high school, with 9% possessing a Bachelor's degree. Seventeen percent of the claimants did not have a high school diploma or GED.

